

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. - 7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) A process for producing bisphenol A comprising condensing phenol and acetone in the presence of, as a catalyst, an acid type of ion exchange resin which is modified in part with a sulfur-containing amine compound, wherein the ion exchange resin which has different modification rate is used in accordance with the concentration of methanol in acetone as a starting raw material and:

(i) said condensing is performed in reaction equipment which comprises at least two reactors in series,

(ii) said ion exchange resin has a modification rate in the range of 26 to 65 mol%,

(iii) the methanol concentration in acetone is in the range of 700 to 8000 ppm by weight, and

(iv) the water content of the starting raw material for condensing is maintained to be less than 0.4% by weight.

9. (Previously Presented) The process for producing bisphenol A according to Claim 8, wherein said acid type ion exchange resin is strongly acidic sulfonic acid type ion exchange resin.

10. (Previously Presented) The process for producing bisphenol A according to Claim 8, wherein the sulfur-containing amine compound is at least one species selected from

the group consisting of mercaptoalkylpyridines, mercaptoalkylamines, thiazolidines and aminothiophenol.

11. (Previously Presented) The process for producing bisphenol A according to Claim 10, wherein the mercaptoalkylamine is 2-mercaptoethylamine and the thiazolidine is 2,2-dimethylthiazolidine.

12. - 17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously Presented) The process for producing bisphenol A according to Claim 8, wherein molar ratio of acetone to phenol ranges from 1/30 to 1/3.

19. (Previously Presented) The process for producing bisphenol A according to Claim 8, wherein the reaction temperature ranges from 40 to 150°C.

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENTS

Claim 8 has been amended.

The amendment of Claim 8 is supported by the specification as originally filed, for example at page 4, lines 16-22.

No new matter has been added by the present amendment.